

I respectfully ask that you reject petition 04-160. Satellite Radio currently estimates subscribership at around 1.7 million. Satellite Radio is experiencing a similar expansion of services that Cable TV had about 20 years ago. The creation of CNN did not make the average American stop watching local news. Americans want choices in their Radio options. Local radio stations offer few choices in the variety and quality of their programming. With Satellite radio, I find my choices unlimited. For this Freedom of Choice, I have elected to pay for these services. The US is a democracy and supporter of capitalism. If local broadcasting companies feel threatened by Satellite Radio, then they should improve their product in order to keep their market share instead of asking the government to institute protectist rules that limit competition in the market place. Thank you for your time and consideration. Melinda Patterson NC - XM Subscriber.